



# GREATER SCIOTO VALLEY EMMAUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE CHAIR

BY GARY JORDAN

What an awesome winter we have had so far! 50-60 degrees suits me just fine. This month a lot is happening, remember set your clocks forward March 10th also election day March 19th, please don't forget to vote! As christians we should make sure we check out the candidate's stand on all issues, biblically especially! Then our responsibility is to vote.

I would like to discuss some issues of the day in our churches, as well as in the world, especially in the political world since this is an election year.

There are three things that never come back: the spent arrow, the spoken word, and the lost opportunity. What we say cannot be unsaid. What's more, we will be called to account for every word we have spoken—even our careless ones—at the day of reckoning (see Matthew 12:36). As King Solomon put it, "Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin" (Proverbs 13:3); and "Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (18:21). Our words can serve to encourage, to nourish, and to heal. But they can also cause strife, create dissension, and do harm. Solomon gives us a multifaceted picture of what characterizes such hurtful words. He describes words that harm as those that are reckless, as being "like sword thrusts" (12:18). Our words so often spill forth unguardedly, and we become someone who "gives an answer before he hears" (18:13). "When words are many, transgression is not lacking" (10:19). You will likely have heard the saying that sticks and stones can break our bones, but words

can never harm us—but that is dead wrong. Bruises may fade and the marks they made will be forgotten. But hurtful words that have been said to us and about us tend to remain with us for a long time.

Remember our Savior and Lord, He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:22-24

Proverbs 16:23-24, The heart of the wise instructed his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips. Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul, and to the bones. May your days be Blessed, Gary Jordan

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# FROM THE BOARD...

BY JOHN MANASCO



March is here already?! The old saying, “In like a loin, out like a lamb” refers to the weather changes. If we were talking about the GSVE’s Calendar of events, we would have to say, “Jump on the bullet train”. Things are happening fast as we get ready for the first ever GSVE walks at Koinonia Farms Camp in Laurelville. We are so blessed to have our new friends and partners at Koinonia. With the change in venue from our walks, we also have new opportunities for service and ministry related to the walks, like the Walk Setup Team. You can volunteer to be a part of the team to setup the venue in preparation for the walk. We have a conference area, dinning area, kitchen, sanctuary, Prayer Chapel, agape and a host of other items to setup in preparation for each walk. The setup will take place the Thursday of each walk from noon to 3 pm. We are looking for 12 volunteers that can help setup tables & chairs, decorate and some other moderate lifting. Go to [GSVE.org/volunteer](https://GSVE.org/volunteer) to let us know your coming to help.

Once everything is setup, there are opportunities for kitchen help and housekeeping to be a resident camper for the weekend. If you can’t stay all weekend, spend a night and help serve the next day. There are slots available for you to come and serve a meal or two or help tidy things up as your schedule permits.

Just like every walk, we will still have those special services where the community show their agape love to the pilgrims. As weather permits, these events will be held outdoors. There is a large area indoors for those services if the weather does not cooperate. So, rain or shine, plan on being a blessing and attend these services.

Do you have a pilgrim to sponsor, get on it. We are actively taking registrations now. Looks like the women’s walk is edging out the men’s in registrations. So men, get your pilgrims in. How cool will it be to say, “My walk was the first Men’s/Women’s walk at Koinonia”. We are praying for God to move in a mighty way. Plan to be a part of what God is doing in our community.

You can register pilgrims, sponsors and volunteer from our website at [GSVE.org/volunteer](https://GSVE.org/volunteer).

If you are available on March 16th, come and help the folks at Koinonia Farms Camp get ready for their “Run to Emmaus”. They host an obstacle course race each year and they have named it “Run to Emmaus” in honor of our partnering with them. See the Events page below for time and address.

For the members of the GSVE board and team members of the upcoming walk, we have a Mock Walk Weekend planed to practice the logistics of the walk in the new venue. This is a stay the night event where we will walk through the various events and move from place to place just like we will during the walk. The purpose is to find the kinks and issues now so we can adjust and make the walk as smooth as possible. If you are attending you will need to register on our website. Bring something to share with the group for Friday night. Breakfast and lunch will be served as part of the walk through. Everything is scheduled to be over by 2:30 pm. There will be a board meeting starting at 2:30 pm. You are welcome to stay for the meeting. Accommodations are only available for adults. Men and women will be in separate cabins. Sorry kids, you’ll have to wait for summer camp.

# FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

BY DAVE BURRISS

The last week of March is the Holiest of weeks that we have in the church calendar, except Christmas. Holy week and the final events of Christ's human life on earth are the culmination of offering us reconciliation with God. So this week I offer you the words of our founder John Wesley and his thoughts for Holy Week. He was a great preacher and founder of the Methodist movement. John Wesley had but one goal, and it was to bring the message of the grace of God to all people. He was an Oxford graduate and an Anglican priest who gave his long and productive life to that cause. I will share some quotes from Mr. Wesley that communicate his calling.

"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can." "Light yourself on fire with passion and people will come from miles to watch you burn."

"Give me one hundred preachers (Christians) who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth."

"Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite, notwithstanding these smaller differences."

"I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfill God's creational intentions."

"When I was young I was sure of everything; in a few years, having been mistaken a thousand times, I was not half so sure of most things as I was before; at present, I am hardly sure of anything but what God has revealed to me."

"Our main doctrines, which include all the rest, are three: That of repentance, of faith, and of holiness. The first of these we account, as it were, the porch of religion; the next, the door; the third, religion itself."

## A PRAYER FROM JOHN WESLEY

O merciful Father, do not consider what we have done against you; but what our blessed Savior has done for us. Don't consider what we have made of ourselves, but what He is making of us for you our God. O that Christ may be "wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption" to every one of our souls. May His precious blood cleanse us from all our sins, and your Holy Spirit renew and sanctify our souls. May He crucify our flesh with its passion and lusts, and cleanse all our brothers and sisters in Christ across the earth. Amen.

Approach his Holy Week with humility and reverence for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May we all continue to grow into the people and the church God would want us to be.

Blessings Pastor Dave

## Volunteer to help at a Gathering

### Lead Worship

email: [Music@gsve.org](mailto:Music@gsve.org)

or

### Share your 4th Day Story

email: [Info@gsve.org](mailto:Info@gsve.org)



MARCH 2024



# 2023 GSVE BOARD

## Executive Committee

Community Lay Director - Gary Jordan .....communityld@gsve.org  
Vice Chair - John Manasco .....vicechair@gsve.org  
Secretary - Bill Lee .....secretary@gsve.org  
Treasurer - Michele Rout .....treasurer@gsve.org

## Clergy

Community Spiritual Director - Dave Burris ..... communitysd@gsve.org  
Clergy - Jamie Darling  
Clergy - TBD

Registrar - Aaron Grand, Linda Jones .....registrar@gsve.org  
Purchasing - Aaron Grand .....purchasing@gsve.org  
Team Selection - Joe McQuiniff .....teamselection@gsve.org  
Music - Michele Rout, John Manasco .....music@gsve.org  
Agape - Cindy Moody .....agape@gsve.org  
Housekeeping - Jeff Brammer .....housekeeping@gsve.org  
Kitchen - Amy Brown .....kitchen@gsve.org  
Sponsorship - Linda Jones .....sponsorship@gsve.org  
Social/Outreach - Bill Jones, Danny Sturgis.....outreach@gsve.org  
Leadership - Lana McGrath .....leadership@gsve.org  
Community Trainer - Mike Matheney .....communitytrainer@gsve.org  
Good Shepherd - Jody Wilson .....goodshepherd@gsve.org  
  
Chrysalis Reps - Kris Liles, Rochelle Barney.....chrysalis@gsve.org

## **CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT GSVE.ORG**

The website has been recently updated and reorganized. Events and walk information are now on the home page, right where you want it.  
Check it out and stay in touch and join us as we follow Christ.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## GSVE WORK DAY @ KOINONIA

March 16th 9am-2pm:

Help setup for the "Race to Emmaus" Event  
15605 Long Run Rd. Laurelville, OH 43135

## MOCK WALK WEEKEND

March 22ND & 23RD:

BOARD MEMBERS AND WALK TEAMS  
REGISTER ONLINE @ [GSVE.ORG](https://gsve.org)



## 2024 WALKS AT KOINONIA

Men's Walk #45

June 6th-9th, 2024

Women's Walk #61

June 13th-16th, 2024

Registration is open **NOW**

[GSVE.ORG/Events](https://gsve.org/events)



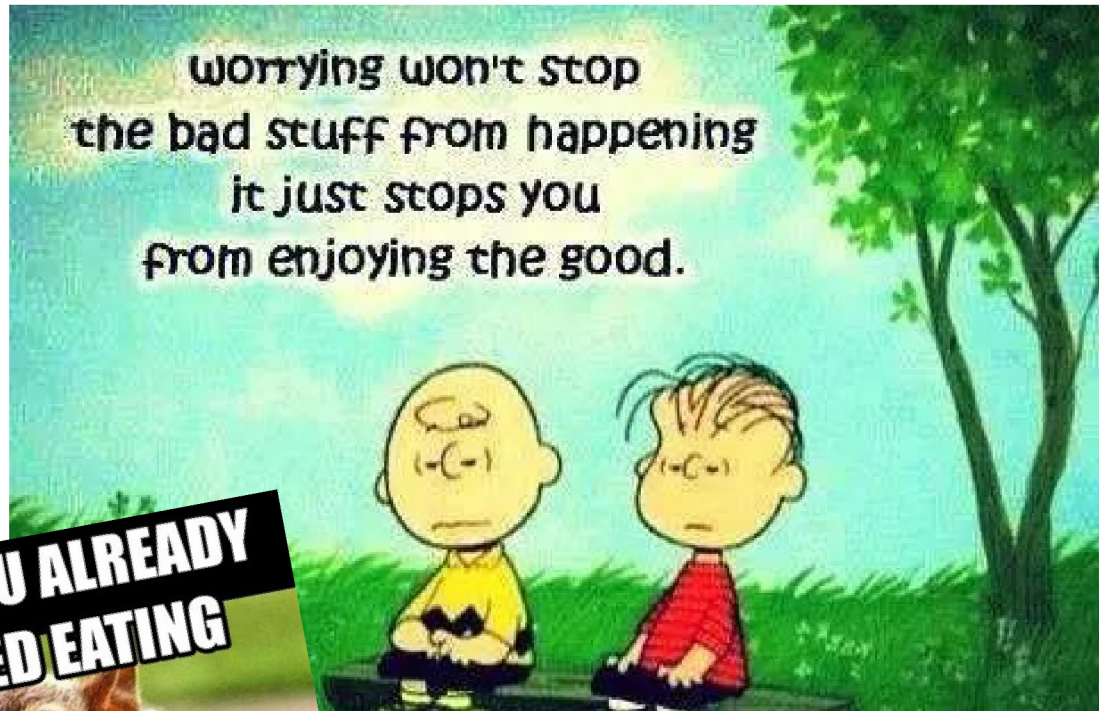
WHO ARE YOU SPONSORING? TIME IS NOW TO BE PRAYING AND TALKING UP YOUR EMMAUS EXPERIENCE WITH THOSE THAT GOD HAS PUT ON YOUR MIND AND IN YOUR PATH. BOTH PILGRIM AND SPONSOR FORMS ARE ONLINE AT [GSVE.ORG](https://gsve.org). WHAT'S KEEPING YOU? GET IT DONE. IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO REGISTER FOR FUTURE WALKS.

Volunteer opportunities for each walk will be available online. Check out [GSVE.org](https://gsve.org)

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# JUST FOR LAUGHS...

## TECH EDITION



FOLLOW US

<https://facebook.com/GreaterSciotoValleyEmmaus>

**VISIT [GSVE.ORG](https://GSVE.ORG) to sign up TODAY!**

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# QUESTIONS ???

## **IS GSVE LEAVING CHILLICOTHE?**

No. GSVE is based in and will continue to be focused on the ministry of the Chillicothe and surrounding communities. Holding our Walk Weekends at a nearby facility with cabins and conference accommodations is what we are giving the GSVE community a new experience. Monthly Gatherings will be held at various churches in the Chillicothe area. Let us know if you would like to host a Gathering at your Church.

## **WHERE ARE THE GSVE WALKS BEING HOSTED?**

Koinonia Farms is located east of Laurelville, OH. This beautiful location in the Hocking Hill area is the ministry built by a local Christian family with strong ties to Chillicothe. It was built during the Covid pandemic shutdown and they continue to build new accommodations and features. They want to offer the use of their facilities as a ministry gift to GSVE. They are excited to offer a partnership with us to share the gospel and promote Christian discipleship.

## **WHY CHANGE VENUES FOR THE WALKS?**

There are a number of reasons, the most pressing being that our numbers were declining, both in service and pilgrim participation. We've been given an opportunity to revitalize and grow by pivoting the experience to a camp environment which allows for communion with God's beautiful creation, without distractions from the outside world. Since our announcing a change in venue, we have had an overwhelming positive response to the new experience we will be able to offer.

## **WHY SO FAR AWAY? I'M CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVING**

This venue will come with the need for a commitment to intentional service. There are accommodations for "live-in" logistics and kitchen team. The camp has ample space to house additional servants. We would encourage car-pooling when coming to serve for just a few hours. Both the Love Community and Southern Ohio Emmaus currently hold their walks at camps, and have a wonderful experience.

## **WHY CHANGE NOW?**

The future of GSVE has been prayerfully poured over by many people for a long time, even before Covid brought us to a screeching halt. While some Emmaus and Chrysalis communities are thriving, many, like GSVE, are struggling to recover from such a shutdown. The need for a ministry like ours is evident in those communities that are doing well. In Matthew 9:37-38 Jesus tells the disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." The purpose of Emmaus is to support the spiritual formation of Christians seeking to know and experience God more fully. As laborers we must continue to pray and go into the "harvest" of believers so that they may continue to grow in their faith and walk with the Lord.

## **WHAT ABOUT GATHERINGS?**

Gatherings will be held in churches in the Chillicothe area so that we can reach others with the ministries of Emmaus and Chrysalis. The Board is evaluating elements of Gatherings, such as day of the week and time of day and would love to have input from the community on this topic. Our Gatherings in the park were well attended and we definitely have multiple outdoor resources for better weather. GSVE is an ecumenical organization and we need to show our support in strengthening disciples within all area churches, not just inviting them on the Walks.

We encourage you to send additional questions by email to [communityld@gsve.org](mailto:communityld@gsve.org).